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Via ECFS

November 30, 2016

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization*, WC Docket No. 11-42, **Notice for Forbearance from Lifeline Broadband Internet Access Service Requirements**

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Pursuant to the *Lifeline Modernization Order* (“Order”),¹ Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (“Leaco”) hereby avails itself of the Federal Communications Commission’s (“FCC” or “Commission”) grant of forbearance from the requirement to provide broadband Internet access service (“BIAS”) as a Lifeline service. Leaco may, however, voluntarily decide to offer and receive reimbursement for providing Lifeline-supported BIAS in all or portions of the area in which it is designated an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”). Pursuant to the guidance provided in Public Notice DA 16-1316,² Leaco provides the following information:

ETC Name: Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Leaco

ETC Designation Order: Petition of Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. As A Competitive Local Exchange Carrier For Designation As An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier, Final Order Approving Recommended Decision, Case No. 04-00396-UT, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (Issued March 14, 2006).

Type of Designation: Competitive Eligible Telecommunications Carrier receiving frozen, phased-down high-cost support, and Eligible Telecommunications Carrier receiving Mobility Fund Phase I support.

Forbearance Area: Leaco avails itself of blanket forbearance throughout the entire geographic area in which it is designated a Competitive ETC receiving frozen, phased-down high cost support and an ETC receiving Mobility Fund Phase I (“MFI”) support, which includes Chaves,

¹ See *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al.*, WC Docket No. 11-42 et al., Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962 (2016) (“*Lifeline Modernization Order*”).

² Public Notice, “Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Guidance Regarding Filing Procedures For Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Seeking To Invoke Forbearance Granted By *Lifeline Modernization Order*,” DA 16-1316 (rel. Nov. 22, 2016).

Greenfield, NM 88230
590 Comanche Road
Bus: 575 734-3312
Fax: 575 734-3326

Hobbs, NM 88240
220 West Broadway
Bus: 575 370-5010
Fax: 575 433-4354

Hobbs, NM 88240
5616 North Lovington Hwy.
Bus: 575 433-6000
Fax: 575 433-7000

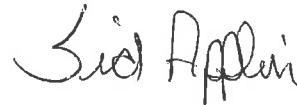
Lovington, NM 88260
1500 North Love
Bus: 575 370-5010
Fax: 575 433-4729

Tatum, NM 88267
10 West First
Bus: 575 398-2212
Fax: 575 398-3297

Eddy, and Lea counties in New Mexico. These counties include the following Census Tracts where Leaco is an ETC for MFI support: T35005001102, T35005001200, T35005001300, T35005001400, T35015000401, T35015000700, T35015000800, T35015000900, T35025000701, T35025000702, T35025000900, and T35025001100. Attachment A is an Excel document listing the counties and associated FIPS codes for the areas where Leaco invokes the Lifeline BIAS forbearance. Leaco has made every effort to comprehensively list all areas where it is a Competitive ETC receiving frozen, phased-down high cost support and an ETC receiving Mobility Fund Phase I support. In the event that any area was inadvertently omitted from Attachment A, Leaco reserves the right to supplement this filing to make administrative corrections to Attachment A.

Please contact our FCC counsel, Greg Whiteaker (202-600-7274) or Robin Tuttle (202-827-0667), if you have any questions regarding this notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sid Applin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sid" and last name "Applin" clearly distinguishable.

Sid Applin

CEO

575 433-4303

sapplin@leaco.org

Attachment

cc Universal Service Administrative Company
(Via Email, TelcoLifeline@usac.org)